



Request For Proposals SHORT – TERM RESIDENTIAL ASSESSMENT FACILITY

RFP HSS 03-16

**ADDENDUM NO. 1
Issued November 20, 2003**

Questions received from the November 5, 2003, Vendor Conference

- 1. Question:** **What is a Nathan Cummings Foundation (NCF) educational program?**
Answer: This is one example of a grant that may have been awarded from a foundation to provide a specific program. Each proposer must thoroughly address how they would meet the education needs of the children placed in the facility. Further, the educational program must be approved by the local education jurisdiction.
- 2. Question:** **Can there be more than one Contractor/Facility?**
Answer: Each proposer should address how they would meet the facility requirements for up to 80 children. The counties are open to more than one facility; however, the counties would prefer to have only one Contractor.
- 3. Question:** **Can more time be granted, if needed, to accept/take in children?**
Answer: The time frame is flexible and open to negotiation. However, each proposer should be aware that there is an immediate need for a facility of this type. Therefore, preference will be given to those who best demonstrate the ability to meet the suggested time lines.
- 4. Question:** **Will consideration be given to proposals for less than 80 beds?**
Answer: Yes. Each proposer should propose for the number of beds that can be managed, such as 40, 60, etc.
- 5. Question:** **Will there be a guarantee of funding for empty beds?**
Answer: At this time there can be no guarantee. The proposer will need to develop a realistic budget for this program. If a proposer feels additional funds will be required to implement and operate this program, they should clearly identify these needs in their proposed budget.
- 6. Question:** **If a potential provider has an outstanding proposal, meets all the criteria, but can only provide (2) thirty-bed facilities, will they be considered?**
Answer: Yes. The RFP has been written to say “up to” 80 beds.

7. **Question:** Should the proposal be formulated to provide for 80 beds in San Bernardino County and 80 beds in Riverside County?
Answer: No. The total is for up to 80 beds. It can be up to forty beds for San Bernardino County children and up to forty beds for Riverside County children. The facility can be located in either San Bernardino County or Riverside County provided it is accessible to both counties, within a ten-mile radius of the county borders and west of Beaumont.
8. **Question:** Will there be a possibility that short-term placements may consequently result in long-term placements?
Answer: Each child will be assessed to determine his/her treatment and placement needs. Some children may be able to return to their families while other children may require high-level group home placement. Most, but not all, children will be moved within a 90-day time frame. A few may stay a bit longer, but this will remain a short-term placement facility and long-term placements are to be avoided.
9. **Question:** How will the evaluation criteria be weighted?
Answer: This RFP is a competitive procurement. Please refer to the RFP for the evaluation criteria.
10. **Question:** Can vacant buildings/facilities be considered?
Answer: It is up to the proposer to state what they are capable of providing in order to meet the requirements of the RFP.
11. **Question:** Can the facility be a locked facility?
Answer: No. Legally, these children cannot be locked up.
12. **Question:** In past years, has an 80-bed facility always been full?
Answer: At this time San Bernardino and Riverside Counties believe they can keep this facility reasonably full. Both counties recognize that the success of this program requires adequate fiscal support for the contractor. Contract provisions will provide opportunities for the provider to accept children from other counties if/when adequate local placements are not being made.
13. **Question:** Will there be a difference between San Bernardino and Riverside Counties in the financial agreement with the provider?
Answer: The terms of the agreement will be the same for both counties. The payment will be made according to the State-approved rates and the respective placing county will be responsible for processing the AFDC-Foster Care payment.
14. **Question:** Can the five-year contract term be extended?
Answer: The contract will be written for a five-year term with the option to renew for up to two additional five-year periods. Based on funding and contractor performance, the terms may be extended upon approval by the Boards of Supervisors of both counties.
15. **Question:** Do the facilities have to be in San Bernardino/Riverside County?
Answer: Yes. Each Board of Supervisors will require the facility(s) be located in either or both of these counties.

16. **Question:** **How will the child's education be handled while the child is in the facility?**
Answer: It is the proposer's responsibility to decide how the education will be provided and this should be addressed in the proposal. Interested proposers may wish to contact the local School District or Riverside/San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools to inquire about specific education options available to them.
17. **Question:** **Has the Community Care Licensing been contacted to see if children ages 10 to 18 can be in one facility?**
Answer: The counties were advised that it could be done, but will have to follow up to confirm that it can be approved.
18. **Question:** **Page 22-Outcome Measures: Are the performance outcomes to be measured for 90-days or less, or for long-term?**
Answer: The facility will be providing short-term residential and assessment services. However, it is anticipated that a quality assessment will assist in finding the appropriate level of care for each child. Please include how your agency proposes to measure the outcomes for the short-term. This is NOT to be a long-term facility.
19. **Question:** **How was the decision made for an 80-bed capacity?**
Answer: The 80-bed capacity was determined to be a workable number of beds by several criteria such as population, facilities available and the children needing placement.
20. **Question:** **How will the program work without a guarantee of funds?**
Answer: As stated previously San Bernardino and Riverside are collaborating in this venture because they have each identified a significant need. Each county believes the facility will be maintained relatively close to its capacity. Additionally, there will be provisions for the contractor to take children from other counties if/when there are an excess of open beds, provided both counties approve and have a first right of refusal.
- The provider also has the option to seek additional funding by contracting with the County Mental Health Departments. Also, please note the RFP indicates each county will provide support in the form of county staff assigned specifically to assist the facility.
21. **Question:** **Is there any flexibility regarding the County border boundaries being expanded?**
Answer: The counties' preference is to be within the guidelines listed in the RFP.
22. **Question:** **Is it possible to get help from San Bernardino/Riverside Counties regarding fast-tracking, building plans, etc., if all details are okay, otherwise?**
Answer: The counties will do their best to help the program be successful.
23. **Question:** **Will it be acceptable to have ages younger than ten in the facility?**
Answer: If that is to be considered, the proposal must explain how the different ages and varying problems will be dealt with and comply with Title 22 requirements.